

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for forming a cord reinforcement layer for a tire, wherein a rubber-coated cord with a predetermined length and coated with rubber in advance is attached one by one onto a tire shaping drum in parallel with, or with inclination relative to, the axis of the shaping drum.

2. (Original) A method for forming a cord reinforcement layer for a tire according to claim 1, wherein, when attaching said rubber-coated cord onto the shaping drum, after the rubber-coated cord is laminated in two layers comprising a radially inner layer and a radially outer layer, the rubber-coated cord in the outer layer is press-fitted between the rubber-coated cords in the inner layer.

3. (Currently Amended) A cord reinforcement layer-forming apparatus for carrying out the method according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~, claim 1, for forming a cord reinforcement layer for tires, comprising:

a cord attaching / cutting machine for successively attaching the rubber-coated cords onto a shaping drum, as well as cutting continuous rubber-coated cord into said predetermined length; a relay drum for unwinding cords out of a cord reel and feeding the cords to the cord attaching / cutting machine, a rubber coating machine for continuously coating the rubber-coated cord between the cord reel and the relay drum; and a festoon for adjusting excess or shortage of the rubber-coated cord generated between the cord attaching / cutting machine and the relay drum.

4. (New) A cord reinforcement layer-forming apparatus for carrying out the method according to claim 2, for forming a cord reinforcement layer for tires, comprising:

a cord attaching / cutting machine for successively attaching the rubber-coated cords onto a shaping drum, as well as cutting continuous rubber-coated cord into said predetermined length; a relay drum for unwinding cords out of a cord reel and feeding the cords to the cord attaching / cutting machine, a rubber coating machine for continuously coating the rubber-coated cord between the cord reel and the relay drum; and a festoon for adjusting excess or shortage of the rubber-coated cord generated between the cord attaching / cutting machine and the relay drum.